10/579958 AP20Rec'dFCTPTO 19 MAY 2006

## What is claimed is:

1. (original) A switching device with a rotatably mounted operating element (10) and an eccentric element (12) for translating a rotational displacement (14) of the operating element (10) into a translatory displacement (16) of a switching element (18), in particular a selector shaft of a hand-held power tool, wherein

a shape of the eccentric element (12) differs significantly from that of a rod.

- (original) The switching device as recited in Claim 1, wherein a cross section of the eccentric element (12) differs significantly from a circular shape.
- 3. (currently amended) The switching device as recited in one of the preceding Claims Claim 1, wherein a cross-sectional dimension (20) of the eccentric element (12) is in the order of magnitude of an eccentricity (22) of the eccentric element (12).
- 4. (currently amended) A switching device as recited in one of the preceding Claims Claim 1, wherein the eccentric element (12) has a guide surface (24, 26) provided to convert the rotational displacement (14) using a contact point (28, 30) that travels on the guide surface (24, 26) during the rotational displacement (14).
- 5. (original) The switching device as recited in Claim 4, wherein the guide surface (24, 26) is designed according to a specified dependency between an angle of rotation (32) of the operating element (10) and an eccentricity (22) of the contact point (28, 30).
- 6. (original) The switching device as recited, at the least, in Claim 4, wherein

the guide surface (24) is designed significantly parabolic in shape.

- 7. (currently amended) The switching device as recited in one of the preceding Claims Claim 1, wherein the eccentric element (12) includes at least two guide surfaces (24, 26).
- 8. (original) The switching device as recited, at the least, in Claim 4, wherein an eccentricity (22) of the contact point (28) varies by at least 10% during a switching motion.
- 9. (original) The switching device as recited in Claim 8, wherein an eccentricity (22) of the contact point (28) varies by at least 50 % during a switching motion.
- 10. (currently amended) The switching device as recited in ene of the preceding Claims Claim 1, characterized by a two-legged shift spring (34) which, in at least one operating configuration, contacts the eccentric element (12) at two contact points (28, 30).
- 11. (original) The switching device as recited in Claim 10, wherein, in at least one operating configuration, the two-legged shift spring (34) is preloaded by the eccentric element (12).
- 12. (currently amended) A hand-held power tool with a switching device as recited in one of the preceding Claims Claim 1.
- 13. (original) An eccentric element (12) for translating a rotational displacement (14) of an operating element (10) of a hand-held power tool into a translatory displacement (16) of a switching element (18) of the hand-held power tool, wherein

a shape of the eccentric element (12) differs significantly from that of a rod.